

Axminster Rural
Honiton Borough
Honiton Rural
Ottery St. Mary Urban
Seaton Urban

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health for 1965

No. 2 Area Devon

Medical Officer of Health—Dr. R. C. MacLeod

			Public Health Inspectors	Surveyors
Axminster Rural	...	...	I. H. White	F. J. Smith
Honiton Borough	...	...	A. J. C. Nex	A. J. C. Nex
Honiton Rural	...	...	J. D. Hopgood	J. D. Hopgood
Ottery St. Mary Urban	...	...	C. W. Glover	C. W. Glover
Seaton Urban	...	...	P. R. Bradley	P. R. Bradley

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICERS

for

No. 2 AREA — EAST DEVON



HONITON BOROUGH	Dr. W. H. McBay, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. D.O.bst., R.C.O.G., D.C.H.
AXMINSTER RURAL	Dr. B. L. Finzel, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
SIDMOUTH URBAN	Dr. R. G. Michelmores, M.D., M.B., B.S., M.R.S.C., L.R.C.P.
HONITON RURAL	Dr. A. T. H. Glanville T.D., S.B.St.J., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., C.P.H.
OTTERY ST. MARY URBAN	Dr. J. F. N. Sidebotham, M.B., B. Chir.
SEATON URBAN	Dr. A. M. W. Coburn, M.B., Ch.B.

These doctors receive a small retainer and a sessional fee if called upon to deputise for or assist the Medical Officer of Health.

Annual Report

for No. 2 Area for 1965

comprising :—

AXMINSTER RURAL, HONITON BOROUGH,
HONITON RURAL, OTTERY ST. MARY URBAN,
AND SEATON URBAN

DR. R. C. MacLEOD — *Medical Officer of Health*

This is the 9th Annual Report I have presented. I shall, as in previous years, comment on services provided in the area by the County Council as well as on those provided by the District Councils.

Infectious Disease

1965

		Axminster	Honiton	Honiton	Ottery	Seaton	Total
		Rural	Borough	Rural	St. Mary Urban	Urban	
Scarlet Fever	...	28	0	2	0	0	30
Whooping Cough	...	11	1	3	0	0	15
Measles	... ..	264	188	110	0	70	632
Poliomyelitis	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis							
(respiratory)	...	2	1	0	0	0	3
Tuberculosis							
(non-respiratory)		0	0	1	0	0	1
Diphtheria	... ..	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Infection	... ..	0	0	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis	... ..	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery	... ..	0	0	0	1	0	1
Ophthalmia							
neonatorum	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal pyrexia	.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	... ..	1	1	3	0	0	5
Food Poisoning	...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	... ..	1	0	0	1	0	2
		—	—	—	—	—	—
		307	191	119	2	70	689
		—	—	—	—	—	—

Diphtheria

Once again no cases have been reported. It is essential, however, that immunisation against this disease should continue, and all parents should ensure that their children are immunised.

Food Poisoning

No cases were notified. One case of *Salmonella dublin* infection in a calf was notified by the Starcross Veterinary Centre, but no human cases resulted. The co-operation of the veterinary people is most helpful.

Food Hygiene

Many visits to food handling premises were made during the year. There is no doubt that the public is becoming more conscious of the necessity for food hygiene and this aids us very much in our task. The standard continues to rise, but vigilance is required at all times.

Immunisation

The system whereby, with the co-operation of the County Medical Department, immunisation figures for the five districts covered by this Report can be compiled separately from those of the County as a whole, has been continued. The numbers inoculated are shown below :—

			Primary			Booster	Total
Smallpox	...	...	190	...	...	67	257
Triple*	...	...	309	(9 incomplete)†	...	254	563
Diphtheria/Tetanus	...	...	8	...	...	36	44
Diphtheria	...	...	—	...	...	1	1
Tetanus	...	...	48	(4 incomplete)‡	...	77	125
			<hr/> 555			<hr/> 435	<hr/> 990

* Combined Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, and Tetanus vaccines.

† Most of those incomplete will be completed in 1966.

Poliomyelitis

No cases of poliomyelitis occurred during the year.

Tuberculosis

Four cases (three respiratory) were notified. As I stated previously small numbers of cases must be expected to occur over the next few years. Final elimination of the disease may present special problems.

At present all children in Primary Schools are Heaf tested (a simple skin test) to see whether they have been exposed to the infection. Those who are shown to have been so exposed are X-rayed together with their families as a precautionary measure.

It should be remembered that all middle-aged and older persons in this country have been exposed to this infection at one time or another, and all but a few overcome it without developing the disease. The discovery of children with a positive skin test may, however, lead us to undetected cases.

Children in senior schools, including private schools, are also Heaf tested, and if negative, are offered B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis. This vaccination is carried out by me throughout the

six districts of my area. The percentage of children of thirteen years of age found to be Heaf positive is now around 3.4, which is a very low figure.

Brucellosis

The remarks made in my 1964 Report still hold good. No progress has been made in the control of this disease. The economic situation of the country is such that on an estimated cost of £40 million to £60 million for an eradication scheme the Ministry must approach the matter cautiously. No adequate reason has yet been advanced, however, as to why the use of S.19 vaccine should not be made compulsory. This has been the initial step in eradication programmes in other countries.

The County Council is bringing in a new milk sampling scheme, but no sampling scheme, however efficient—and this one gives yearly sampling for the smaller herds—can have any effect in controlling the infection as adequate powers to deal with infection once discovered do not exist.

Anthrax

Under the provision of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1950—

Anthrax Order, 1938

Ten cases of anthrax were notified. Where the disease occurred in bovines the farmers were visited, and advice on prevention of human infection given. No human cases occurred.

An efficient vaccine against anthrax is now available and the use of it will be advised for persons working in appropriate establishments.

International Certificates of Vaccination

When completed by the medical practitioners these certificates must be authenticated by the local Medical Officer of Health.

Number authenticated during the year shown below :—

			Smallpox	T.A.B.	Cholera	Typhus	Total
Month							
January	...	...	30	1	8	—	39
February	...	...	66	1	4	—	71
March	...	...	71	—	2	—	73
April	...	...	49	1	3	—	53
May	...	...	39	—	3	—	42
June	...	...	30	8	11	—	49
July	...	...	41	11	11	—	63
August	...	...	43	—	17	—	60
September	...	...	17	—	3	5	25
October	...	...	30	4	6	—	40
November	...	...	35	—	5	2	42
December	...	...	50	1	7	—	58
			—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	...	501	27	80	7	615
			—	—	—	—	—

In September there was 1 Certificate of Exemption.

Cancer

The number of deaths from cancer of the lungs and bronchus was 16, five more than last year, but only one more than the average for the past six years. The total number of cancer deaths was two more than the six-year average, and in addition there were four deaths where cancer was a factor though not the main cause of death.

Lungs & Bronchus.							All Types including Lungs & Bronchus						
1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Axminster Rural — Population 14,970													
8	6	4	9	13	7	9	32	36	41	44	42	26	41
Honiton Borough — Population 4,320													
2	0	2	1	1	1	0	12	8	8	5	11	15	10
Honiton Rural — Population 7,120													
1	3	2	3	0	2	2	17	14	16	16	10	23	14
Ottery St. Mary Urban — Population 4,690													
2	1	1	1	3	1	1	12	12	10	14	12	15	10
Seaton Urban — Population 3,610													
2	2	3	4	3	0	4	16	9	14	16	10	16	16
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	12	12	18	20	11	16	89	79	89	95	85	95	91
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47

No action was required under this section.

Welfare of Old People

The Meals-on-Wheels Service in Seaton, Honiton, Axminster, and Ottery St. Mary continues to be much needed and much appreciated. In the Honiton area 1,636 meals were served; in the Seaton area 1,468; in the Axminster area 1,302; and in the Ottery St. Mary area 1,706.

During the year the full-time Chiropodist held clinics at Honiton, Seaton, Ottery St. Mary, Beer, Branscombe, Colyton, and Axminster.

St. Michael's Home

St. Michael's Home was opened in Honiton at the end of the year. It is a single-storey, purpose-built old persons' home which provides accommodation for thirty-six residents of both sexes in ten double rooms and sixteen single rooms. This home has a specially high staff ratio so that it can provide adequate care for those who are very frail physically or mentally.

Every effort is made to give the residents full freedom, but at the same time giving a sense of security. A homely atmosphere is maintained to encourage the residents to look upon St. Michael's as their true home. Residents are helped to follow their previous hobbies, and tuition in craftwork is given by a qualified instructor

in the special accommodation provided for those who wish to do this work. This activity has proved extremely popular in other homes.

Meals are cooked in a special kitchen for distribution by the W.V.S. through the meals-on-wheels scheme, while tenants in adjoining bungalows which have been erected by the Borough Council can secure help from the home by using a simple call bell system. Two beds are also being reserved in the home so that older people can come for a short holiday while relatives are on holiday, or perhaps ill. Arrangements can also be made for one or two old people to come to the home as day residents returning each night to sleep at home.

Hospitals

There are three hospitals in the area :—

- (1) *Axminster*. Accommodation is as follows : 30 beds for general medical and minor surgical cases including one private and one amenity bed.
- (2) *Honiton*. Accommodation is as follows : 153 beds in all. 104 chronic sick, 26 welfare, 7 maternity, and 16 acute medical and minor surgical.
- (3) *Ottery St. Mary*. Accommodation is as follows : 23 beds in all. 19 general medical and minor surgical, and 4 chronic sick.

Cases of infectious disease from the area go to Whipton Isolation Hospital. The Resident Physician and his staff have been most helpful at all times.

Laboratory facilities

Co-operation between the Public Health Laboratory Service at Exeter and the Public Health Department has been close.

Child Welfare Clinics

Child welfare clinics are held at Axminster, Colyton, Honiton, Seaton, and Ottery St. Mary. The number of sessions held and the attendances were as follows :—

Axminster

Number of sessions held — 28

Total number of attendances (babies) — 441

Total number of attendances (toddlers) — 629

Colyton

Number of sessions held — 24

Total number of attendances (babies) — 90

Total number of attendances (toddlers) — 176

Honiton

Number of sessions held — 40

Total number of attendances (babies) — 441

Total number of attendances (toddlers) — 235

Seaton

Number of sessions held — 24

Total number of attendances (babies) — 448

Total number of attendances (toddlers) — 295

Ottery St. Mary

Number of sessions held — 23

Total number of attendances (babies) — 531

Total number of attendances (toddlers) — 180

Water Supplies

Improvements to the water supply steadily continue, though with so many small sources difficulties are bound to arise from time to time. No water borne disease has occurred. Samples from the East Devon Water Board's supplies are examined chemically by the Board's chemist and bacteriologist, and while bacteriological examinations are done by him according to a sampling scheme in conformity with the World Health Organization recommendations, samples are also submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for independent assessment. Water Board personnel are medically examined on appointment, and in the case of all outdoor staff a Widal Test is included. This is repeated at intervals, but as a routine precaution all medical certificates for such personnel are scrutinised by the M.O.H., who is also M.O. to the Board, and where there is any indication of gastro intestinal upset or other suspicious symptom further inquiries are made.

I am indebted to the Chief Engineer of the East Devon Water Board for the following report :

"The first section of the coastal main was completed in 10in. diameter pipe between Sidford and Branscombe. With the commissioning of this main the supply from No. 3 Borehole was delivered to Weston and Branscombe. As a consequence the former Weston source was reduced to standby duty.

"Under the Wilnington Rural Development Scheme one of the remaining lengths of main was laid to Watchcombe.

"Two further boreholes have been drilled in the Otter Valley near Harpford in the programme of borehole development to find new sources of supply.

"Mains extensions have, of course, been carried out in all districts for new housing development.

"A considerable length of 4in. dia. and 3in. dia. P.V.C. main was laid taking supplies to farms in the Stopgate, Yarcombe area previously supplied from an estate system.

"A new 8in. dia. main was commissioned between Whitford and Musbury, thus affording a reinforcement of the supply from Pinhay and the inter-connection with the emergency works on the River Axe."

Outworkers

Under the provisions relating to the Outworkers in the Factories Act, 1937, it is necessary for Councils in whose areas there are factories or other establishments employing Outworkers to inform the Medical Officer of Health of the district where the Outworkers live of the fact of their employment.

The number of Outworkers seems to be declining. No problem has arisen in connection with such employment during the year.

Mass Radiography

Early in the year the Service began a new scheme whereby routine fortnightly visits were made to fixed sites in Sidmouth and Honiton. The advantages of this are obvious, although attendance for those in the eastern part of the area is sometimes not so easy. The numbers examined are shown in the table below :

	Male	Female	Total
Number examined ...	413	286	699
Abnormalities detected	21	11	32
Being investigated ...	11	1	12

As will be seen a number of cases are still under investigation but no active tuberculosis was discovered. Other conditions were as follows :—

Non Malignant Neoplasms ...	...	3
Acquired Cardio Vascular Disease ...	...	4
Bronchiectasis ...	...	2
Pulmonary Infections ...	...	1
Bronchitis and Emphysema ...	...	7
Abnormality of the Diaphragm ...	...	1
Other significant abnormality ...	...	1
Non-significant abnormalities ...	...	4
Total ...		23

General

The sewage works at Kilminster and Honiton will be completed in 1966, and there will then be no further major works of sanitation necessary in the inland area. The one major work needed on the coast is, of course, the Seaton sewage scheme, which has hung fire for many years and is so urgently required. There are, however, numerous small areas lacking adequate arrangements for the disposal of sewage.

R. C. MacLEOD,
Medical Officer of Health.

AXMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT

Area	52,135 acres
Population	14,970
Number of Parishes	14
Rateable Value	£518,311
Penny Rate produces	£2,089
General Rate levied	10s.

Deaths

1964	101 males, 78 females	179
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	12
	Comparability factor	0.76
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	9.1
1965	81 males, 82 females	163
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10.9
	Comparability factor	0.75
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	8.2

Live Births

1964	86 males, 96 females	182
	9 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	182
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	12.2
	Comparability factor	1.3
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	15.8
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births ...	4.9
1965	93 males, 78 females	171
	11 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	171
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	11.42
	Comparability factor	1.30
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	14.8
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births ...	6.4

Still Births

1964	1 still birth was registered (0 illegitimate)	1
	Total live and still births	183
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	5.5
1965	2 still births were registered (0 illegitimate)	2
	Total live and still births	173
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	11.6

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1964	3 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	3
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	16.5
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	17.3
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	nil
1965	3 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	3
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	17.5
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	18.75
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1964	3 deaths were registered	...	...	...	3
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	16.5
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	nil
1965	0 deaths were registered	...	...	...	0
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	nil
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1964	3 deaths were registered	...	...	...	3
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	16.5
	Peri-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	21.9
1965	0 deaths were registered	...	...	...	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	nil

Deaths

The chief causes of death were :

	1964	1965
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	1	0
Pulmonary Sarcoidosis	0	1
Other infective and parasitic disease	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	9
Malignant neoplasm, breast	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	21
Diabetes	1	0
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	42	31
Coronary disease, angina	37	31
Hypertension with heart disease	2	5
Other heart disease	18	15
Other circulatory disease	7	11
Influenza	1	0
Pneumonia	6	6
Bronchitis	11	3

Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	0	1
Congenital malformations	0	2
Other defined and ill-defined disease	11	6
Motor vehicle accidents	5	0
All other accidents	1	1
Suicide	2	3
	<hr/> 179	<hr/> 164

Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector

Water Supplies

East Devon Water Board. The supplies at Chardstock, Yawl, Uplyme, Rousdon, Kilminster, Beer, Raymond's Hill, Colyford, Colyton and Dalwood have been regularly sampled and in all cases found to be satisfactory.

Private Water Undertakings. The following were also regularly examined. These sources are not subject to treatment or chlorination :

Axmouth (Stedcombe Estate) Supply — Class 1.

Combpyne Supply. — This supply was maintained at a reasonable standard for some time, but gradually deteriorated to such an extent that remedial measures had to be taken. It has always been necessary for the supply to be well managed and although it has improved a careful watch will be kept to see that the standard of purity is maintained within the Ministry of Health's classification for non-chlorinated piped supplies.

Sewerage

Work continues at the new Axminster site and though the rate of progress has been very slow the scheme should be completed early in 1966. The schemes for Dalwood and Membury are in an advanced state and it is hoped that restrictions in capital expenditure will not hold them up. Drainage problems continue to occur : they occur both in modernised old properties, where the effect of modernisation on the drainage system has not been considered, and in new properties not on the sewer, where the capacity of the sub-soil to take effluents has not been properly assessed or where the house has been placed on the plot in such a position that proper drainage is impossible. It is as important to assess the capacity of the sub-soil for drainage purposes as it is to calculate the type of foundations needed.

Public Conveniences

During the year the Rural Council have taken over the running and control of the lavatories at Axminster, Beer and Colyton, and many improvements have been made. Unfortunately

the scheme for the proposed public conveniences at the new car park site at Axminster has been held up through restrictions in capital expenditure. There is special need for Axminster to possess more public conveniences and it is hoped that progress in this direction will not be held up too long.

General Inspections and Visits

General Sanitation

Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Stables, Piggeries and Cow Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Caravans, Tents, Vans and Sheds (Sites)	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Scrap Metal Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Litter	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Animal Boarding Establishments	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	134
Rats and Mice (Prevention of Damage by Pests Act)	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Noise	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shops and Offices Act — Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Shops and Offices Act — Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Petroleum — Inspections and Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Explosives — Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	9

Housing

Under Public Health Acts—							
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Under Housing Acts—							
Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	97

Overcrowding—

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Filthy or Verminous Premises—							
Visits paid to above houses	1

Infectious Diseases

Miscellaneous infectious disease visits	1
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Meat and Food Inspections

Inspection of Meat							
Visits to Slaughterhouse	9
Total Meat Inspection Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	232
Knackers Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Visits in connection with :							
Water sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Condemnation of food	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

1.—Number of Food Premises

Type	Number in area	Fitted to comply with Reg, 16	Reg. 19 applies	Fitted to comply with Reg. 19	No. of Inspec- tions
(a) Bakeries ...	8	8	8	8	—
(b) Beach Stalls ...	5	5	5	5	—
(c) Butchers ...	11	11	11	11	13
(d) Canteens (works and school) ...	22	22	22	22	—
(e) Clubs, Licensed premises, hotels	55	42	55	55	20
(f) Confectioners ..	15	15	—	—	6
(g) Milk Distributors, Dairies ...	4	4	4	4	5
(h) Fishmongers, Poulterers ...	4	4	4	4	8
(i) Greengrocers, Fruiterers ...	8	6	8	6	2
(j) Grocers ...	50	45	31	31	19
(k) Market Stalls...	5	—	—	—	1
(l) Pannier Market	1	—	—	—	—
(m) Restaurants, Cafes ...	18	18	18	18	10
(n) Street Traders	2	—	—	—	—

2.—Number of Premises registered under Section 16

	Number in area	No. of inspections
(a) Manufacture of Sausages ...	10	4
(b) Sale of Ice-Cream only (pre-packed)	78	10
(c) Fish Frying ...	3	—

3.—It has not been possible to form any food guild within the area.

4.—Disposal of condemned foods :

- (a) Tinned Food — by incineration.
- (b) Meat — by incineration.

During the year the following was condemned :

Cooked Meat, 9lb. 14oz.; Tinned Meat, 56lb. 12½oz.; Fresh Meat, 34lb. 8oz.; Tinned Fruit, 55lb. 5oz.; Fresh Poultry, 720lb. Tinned Vegetables, 5lb. 9oz.; Other Foods, 9lb. 3¾oz.

5.—No action has been necessary with regard to the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, as no Ice-Cream is manufactured in this district.

Food Poisoning

There were no cases of food poisoning during the year.

Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963

Slaughtering continued at Axminster. 100% inspection is carried out and all meat stamped as laid down in the Act.

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:

	Cattle	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	222	1040	4
<i>All Disease except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis :</i>			
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part was condemned	6	18	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	2.7%	1.7%	
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>			
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part was condemned	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—
<i>Cysticercosis :</i>	—	—	—

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

One licence is in force.

Poultry Dressing and Packing Station at Chardstock

Periodic inspection is maintained and these premises continue to maintain the necessary standards of hygiene.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Since the Bulldozer has been obtained the state of the refuse tip at Kilmington has improved immensely, and under the circumstances the results can be regarded as comparable with those of any other method of "controlled" tipping. However, conditions during wet weather become appalling owing to the clay "cover" which is the only type available. The need for a new site is urgent to provide long term disposal. Disposal capacity at Kilmington is becoming increasingly limited.

Litter Act, 1958

The litter receptacles at lay-bys spread throughout the district were regularly emptied during refuse collection and extra collections were carried out weekly to those lay-bys on County and main roads. The cost of the latter service has been met by the County Council. It is hoped that this will be improved to a twice weekly collection throughout the summer months during the coming year.

Sanitation of Lay-bys

Although there is a move to provide sanitation on main roads, there will still be a problem within those districts bordering the sea, because the lay-bys near to seaside towns will continue to be over used by holiday makers and day trippers. These areas are fouled extensively during the summer and the sites are so numerous that sanitation cannot be controlled. It is time the public became aware of these problems and made more effort to help.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949—Rodent Control

The part-time Rodent Operator has continued to survey the whole of the district. During the year the following premises were inspected under the above Act :

Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	24
Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses)	...	...	...	...	...	1612
All other (including business premises)	...	...	...	...	...	284
Agricultural	...	...	...	...	...	342

Test baiting and half-yearly maintenance treatments were carried out to the Council's sewerage system at Axminster, Axmouth, Beer, Colyton, Colyford and Stockland, and services were also carried out to the Council's sewerage treatment plants.

The Council's refuse dump was systematically treated.

Petroleum

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936

Petroleum (Mixtures) Order, 1929

The inspection and annual licensing of all statutory installations covering 67 storage sites for petrol and 3 for petroleum mixtures was dealt with.

During the year three sites were developed, and storage increased at three sites.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

Four establishments have been relicensed, providing adequate and satisfactory accommodation for the boarding of 37 dogs and 9 cats. Re-visits have shown that they have been maintained and well run.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

During the early part of the year general inspections were made resulting, with previous years' inspections, in the coverage of the majority of shops and catering establishments open to the public in the area. Some offices were inspected and it had been hoped that the general inspection of all premises would be completed but, unfortunately, owing to pressure of urgent work and later to temporary depletion of staff, this was not possible.

In the latter half of the year a circular letter was sent to all inspected establishments pointing out infringements of the Act noted, and asking for remedial action to be taken if any contravention applied to their premises. As soon as the situation permits, this action will be followed up.

Unfortunately, for the above reasons, no action was taken on the Ministry of Labour Circular 9, Supplement 1, regarding lighting of premises during the latter part of the year, but previous inspections have shown that lighting in all types of premises varies from excellent to very poor. Occupiers of premises inspected have been advised both as to a possible minimum standard 15—20 lumens per square foot range and the standard advised by the Illuminating Engineers' Council for the particular type of premises, in a hope that the occupier would bring his premises in line with the higher standard.

During the year one accident, resulting in an employee being away from work for more than three days was reported. The machinery involved, a bacon slicer, has now been replaced with a modern machine. The back of the knife could be cleaned with an inadequate guard in position. The accident was the result of carelessness by the employee in not seeing that this guard was properly secured.

In the main Sanitary Accommodation and Washing Facilities are adequate, but work has been put in hand to satisfy the regulations which come into force on 1st January, 1966, in the few premises which are below the standards laid down.

TABLE A—Registration and General Inspections

TOTALS	10	125	43
Offices	5	30	5
Retail Shops	5	74	22
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses ...	—	2	—
Catering Establishments open to the public, Canteens ...	—	18	16
Fuel storage depots	—	1	—
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year.	Total No. of registered premises at end of year.	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.

TABLE B—Number of Visits of all kinds by Inspectors to
TABLE B

Registered premises—81.

TABLE C—Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises or Workplace

Class of workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices	162
Retail Shops	275
Wholesale departments, Warehouses ...	19
Catering Establishments open to the public	101
Canteens	—
Fuel Storage Depots	13
Total ...	570
Total Males ...	252
Total Females ...	318

Factories Act, 1961

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority ... 6	3	—	
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority 73	28	—	
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority 7	5	—	
Totals	86	36	nil

Sections 133 and 134—Outworkers

Nature of work.	Section 133 No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Section 134 Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel	12	—	—	—	—	—
Nets other than wire nets	3	—	—	—	—	—

Caravanning and Camping

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960

In 1965 there were in use at peak of season :

- 19 Residential Caravans
- 383 Static Holiday Caravans
- 20 Touring Caravans
- 72 Organised Tents
- 188 Casual Tents
- 5 Motorised — e.g. Dormobile
- 15 Holiday Chalets.

Routine inspection during the season was carried out at the five main licensed sites, besides the eleven individual sites also licensed.

There were six sites issued with exemption certificates under the above Act. These sites were not extensively used.

Housing

Council

During the past year further progress was made on various sites bringing the total number of Council dwellings to 1133 with 44 houses still under construction.

There are now four Grouped Dwelling Schemes for Aged Persons with a full-time Warden in attendance at Axminster (2), Beer and Colyton. In conjunction with the County Council it has been possible to adapt certain houses to facilitate their occupation by handicapped persons and also to provide a Day Centre for elderly tenants at Millwey Rise.

Due to the financial restrictions and high rates of interest it has not been possible to make advances to owner/occupiers for house purchase.

Housing Act, 1957

- | | | |
|---|--------|---|
| 1. Total number of dwelling houses demolished | ... | 5 |
| 2. Total number of dwelling houses closed | ... .. | 9 |
| 3. Total number of dwelling houses informally closed | ... | 4 |
| 4. Total number of houses rendered fit by formal notice | | 6 |

Arising from 302 Official Searches no less than 33 properties were revealed in the lower categories. Owners availed themselves of the information regarding the defects and were encouraged, sometimes by Improvement Grant, to raise the condition of the property to a higher category.

Improvement Grants

During the year five Discretionary Grants were approved involving grants amounting to £1,278. Twenty-two Standard Grants were also approved involving maximum grant value of £5,142.

The total number of grant applications dealt with up to 31st December, 1965, by the Surveyor's Department, now total 454 involving a total value of work of £88,059.

Rent Act, 1957

No applications have been received during the year.

Explosives

During the year the administrative work in connection with the Explosives Acts, 1875 and 1923, was carried out.

The number licensed was :

(a) for the keeping of Mixed Explosives	...	...	18
(b) for the keeping of Cartridges	...	...	3
(c) for the keeping of Gunpowder	...	...	3

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

During the year one dealer operating from a store and one Itinerant Collector were Registered.

Staff

I would like to express my thanks to Mr. Cleevely and Miss Urquhart for their most able assistance during the year, especially during my hospitalisation.

L. H. WHITE, M.R.S.H.,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

HONITON BOROUGH

Area	3.125 acres
Population	4,320
Rateable Value	£187,427
Penny Rate produces	£719
General Rate Levied	11/10d.

Deaths

1964	34 males, 38 females	72
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	17.1
	Comparability factor	0.67
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	11.5
1965	33 males, 35 females	68
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	15.7
	Comparability factor	0.51
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	8.0

Live Births

1964	39 males, 37 females	76
	1 illegitimate birth was registered and is included in the above total of	76
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	18.1
	Comparability factor	1.24
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	22.4
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	1.3
1965	44 males, 37 females	81
	8 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	81
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	18.75
	Comparability factor	1.08
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	20.2
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	9.9

Still Births

1964	0 still births were registered	0
	Total live and still births	76
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	nil
1965	2 still births were registered	2
	Total live and still births	83
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	24.1

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1964	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	13.2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	13.3
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	nil
1965	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	12.3
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	13.7
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1964	1 death was registered	...	...	...	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	13.2
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	nil
1965	1 death was registered	...	...	...	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	12.3
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1964	0 deaths were registered	...	...	...	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	nil
1965	1 death was registered	...	...	...	1
	Early neo-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	12.3
	Peri-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	37.0

Deaths

The chief causes of death were :

	1964	1965
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	1	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	0
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	0
Malignant neoplasm, breast	2	0
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	10
Diabetes	1	0
Vascular lesions of nervous system	20	16
Coronary disease, angina	10	14
Hypertension with heart disease	1	0
Other heart disease	5	6
Other circulatory disease	3	5
Pneumonia	2	1
Bronchitis	2	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	0	2
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	1	0
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	1
Congenital malformations	2	0
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	7
Motor vehicle accidents	2	3
All other accidents	3	0
Suicide	1	1
	<hr/> 72	<hr/> 68

HOUSING

Slum Clearance

During the year 106 visits have been made to various properties in the district under the Housing Act. This has resulted in eight houses being closed, seven Time & Place notices being served, three agreements being received not to re-let the property, and two premises being served with a Schedule of Repairs.

The Council resolved during the year to require food cupboards to be provided in existing premises and 15 informal notices have been served on owners requiring the provision of such facilities.

In order to assess the number of points to which Council House applicants are entitled, 56 houses have been inspected for the Housing Committee; and, as in past years, during these visits the opportunity has been taken to build up an overall picture of housing accommodation in the borough.

Much informal action has been taken during the year which has resulted in many premises being improved.

Housing in Multiple Occupation

One case has been taken to Committee this year. Formal action was authorised.

Improvement Grants

Set out below is a table of grants and mortgages made during the past twelve months.

			Number of Applications	Number Approved	Number Refused	Value Approved
Standard Grant	...	...	4	4	nil	£545
Discretionary Grant	...	...	1	1	nil	£400
Loan on Repairs	...	...	—	—	—	—
Mortgages for House Purchase			5	3	2	£7,100

Rent Act, 1957

No applications were received this year.

Housing Generally

The number of very unsatisfactory houses occupied in the borough continues to decrease each year. It is pleasing to be able to record that the Borough Council is playing a very active part in improving housing conditions and has a very ambitious programme; while private enterprise, in the form of three Companies, is also engaged in building a considerable number of houses.

PUBLIC HEALTH

General

The department has continued primarily with informal activities as far as Public Health is concerned. One or two cases have occurred during the year where informal action has been necessary, but again it has been found that the Public Health Inspector can achieve much by acting in an informal manner and in an advisory capacity. In almost all instances the public seem to accept this approach and I am pleased to record the co-operation and assistance given. As in previous years I propose to avoid tables and numbers of inspections, as in my opinion the criterion is not the number of inspections made but the results obtained.

I wish to record, however, that I am of the opinion that sufficient inspections have been made by my department during the year.

Water Supply

The quality, quantity and mains pressure have all been satisfactory during the year. The East Devon Water Board, who are the Statutory Undertakers, have taken regular samples and these are available for inspection if required.

Bathing Facilities

In my report last year I expressed the hope that the "learner pool" would not be used in 1965. This hope did not materialise and the learner pool was again used by the schools with hand-chlorination only. The pool was, however, completely refilled with water three times a week and conditions were reasonably satisfactory. I can now state quite definitely, however, that the new pool being built by the Trustees will be available for the summer of 1966 unless something very unforeseen occurs.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The completion of the modernisation and enlargement of the Sewerage Works has taken much longer than was expected, and it would now seem likely that the Works will not be complete until perhaps May, 1966. A reasonably good effluent has been produced during the reconstruction of the Works and there have

been no complaints from the Devon River Authority. First impressions of the sludge drying plant are not good, and I feel that when the trade effluents are excluded from the sewers we may be forced to use a binding material. However, I do not wish to pre-judge this plant and doubtless shall be in a position to comment more fully upon it when the 1966 Report is written.

Public Conveniences

The Public Conveniences have been maintained satisfactorily during the past twelve months.

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

No Licences are in force.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The Council continues to enjoy the facilities of the Sidmouth Urban District Council tip at Knapp Copse. The constant growth of the town must ultimately affect the number of employees required to collect the trade and domestic refuse from the borough. At present the extra refuse has been absorbed, but when the Council housing programme and the three private housing sites are completed the position may well have to be re-assessed.

During the year a comprehensive and detailed survey and study of the collection of refuse was made by the department. No action on this survey has yet been taken owing to the department being understaffed for a period. The department now being back to full strength I hope to study the survey and when the growth mentioned previously has taken place make use of its contents and advise the Council as to the most satisfactory and economical way of refuse collection.

Factories Act, 1961

	Number Registered	Number of Inspections	Number of Notices
Premises			
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority	3	3	nil
Factories not included in the above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	35	24	3
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	nil	nil	nil
Number of cases in which defects were found:			

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a)					
Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	4	4	—	—	—

Section 133 and 134 — Outworkers

Nature of work.	Section 133 No. of out- workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Section 134 Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions
-----------------	--	---	--	--	-------------------	-------------------

Wearing apparel	1	—	—	—	—	—
Making nets, other than wire	—	—	—	—	—	—

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

No applications for exemptions were received. This is yet another duty placed on the Public Health Department which has been absorbed, and I trust the Council will feel that the number of inspections being made is adequate.

Table A.—Registrations and General Inspections.

TOTALS				26	111	42
Offices	...	...	...	10	41	13
Retail Shops	...	...	...	10	55	22
Wholesale shops, warehouses	...	...	...	4	5	5
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	...	...	...	2	10	2
Fuel storage depots	...	...	...	nil	nil	nil
(1)				(2)	(3)	(4)
Class of premises				No. of premises registered during the year.	Total No. of registered premises at end of year.	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.

Table B.—Number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises — 60.

Table C.—Analysis of persons employed in registered premises or workplace.

Class of workplace (1)	No. of persons employed (2)
Offices	167
Retail shops	205
Wholesale departments, warehouses	39
Catering establishments open to the public	31
Canteens	1
Fuel storage depots	8
Total	451
Total Males	231
Total Females	220

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956

The number of farms in the borough remains at 33.

No cases are known where the Act is not being complied with.

Petroleum

All previously licensed premises were re-licensed with one exception, and one new licence was issued. Periodical inspections are made to ensure that the Model Code of Principles of Construction is being complied with and it was unnecessary to draw the Committee's attention to any cases.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

A part-time operator continues to be employed by the Borough Council. Eighteen complaints were received and 14 premises found to be infested, each being treated on a rechargeable basis by the Council Operator. Fifty premises were inspected by the Operator where no infestations were found, and 210 inspections were made by the office staff, again no infestations were found.

The town sewers were test baited, and this test baiting revealed an increased infestation. Suitable treatment immediately followed.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The department has continued to make regular visits to all types of food premises. There has been no need to take any informal action during the year, but much advice has been given to various occupiers of premises.

In addition to numerous general visits, 24 detailed visits to food premises were made.

Ice-cream continues to be sold from 28 premises, all registered; and sausages, or potted, pressed, pickled, or preserved food from seven premises, all registered. These premises have been regularly inspected and there has been no cause for complaint. There are no

Egg Pasteurisation plants in the borough. Again there has been no food poisoning reported and occupiers of food premises have continued with the arrangement that they report all suspected unsound food to the department. This has resulted in a total of 5cwt. of unsound food being voluntarily surrendered.

Meat Inspection

The department provides a meat inspection service in accordance with the requirements of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, the Council continuing to impose the maximum charge permitted by the Ministry, i.e. 2s. 6d. for adult bovine, 9d. for pigs and calves, and 6d. for sheep. I set out hereunder the usual table

showing the number of animals passing through the slaughterhouse, together with the incidence of disease. From these tables the Council will see—

- (i) The only material change has been in the number of sheep passing through the slaughterhouse.
- (ii) The number of carcasses condemned has increased for all classes except for sheep; and a particular point to note is that 5% of the total number of calves inspected were condemned.
- (iii) Condemnation of parts of carcasses and offal has decreased for cattle but increased for pigs and sheep.
- (iv) The incidence of Tuberculosis in cattle has risen from .25 per cent to .4 per cent, and in pigs from .8 per cent to 1.1 per cent.

(In the case of the increase in cattle this is a figure which will vary from year to year depending on the number of "Reactor Cattle" sent to the slaughterhouse. Whilst the number of cattle inspected has increased by almost 100 per cent the number of cattle found to be affected by localised cysticercus bovis has dropped from 18 per cent to 10 per cent).

Table of Kill figures, Inspection figures and Unsound Meat.

			Cattle	Calves	Pigs	Sheep and lambs
Cattle killed	...	...	2948	109	8993	11573
Number inspected	...	...	2948	109	8993	11573
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	...		53	20	60	79
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...		296	5	524	555
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with a disease other than Tubercu- losis and Cysticercosis	...		12%	25%	6%	6%
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	...		—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...		8	—	99	—
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuber- losis	...	...	.4%	—	1.1%	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i> (localised)			10	—	—	—

The following meat and offal was voluntarily surrendered from the two slaughterhouses—

				Meat	Offal
Cattle	...	...	...	25,858 lbs.	5,833 lbs.
Calves	...	...	...	828 lbs.	127 lbs.
Pigs	...	...	...	8,715 lbs.	3,372 lbs.
Sheep	...	...	...	2,855 lbs.	2,107 lbs.

Total Meat: 17 tons 1 cwt.

Total Offal: 5 tons 2 cwt.

Conclusion

During the year Mr. Napier left the department and it is hoped a replacement will be appointed early in the New Year. I would like to record my thanks to Mr. Humphreys and Miss Harvey for their assistance during the year and to Mr. Napier for his assistance during part of the year.

A. J. C. NEX,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

HONITON RURAL DISTRICT

Area	61,260 acres
Population	7,120
Number of Parishes	22
Rateable Value	£162,955
Penny Rate produces	£630
General Rate levied	9/3d.

Deaths

1964	47 males, 35 females	82
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	11.5
	Comparability factor	0.93
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10.7
1965	39 males, 40 females	79
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	11.1
	Comparability factor	0.93
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10.3

Live Births

1964	62 males, 55 females	117
	4 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	117
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	16.4
	Comparability factor	1.17
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	19.2
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3.4
1965	58 males, 63 females	121
	7 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	121
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	17.0
	Comparability factor	1.17
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	19.9
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births ...	5.8

Still Births

1964	3 still births were registered	3
	Total live and still births	120
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	25
1965	1 still birth was registered	1
	Total live and still births	122
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	8.2

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1964	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	17.1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	17.7
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	nil
1965	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	0
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1964	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	2
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	17.1
	Maternal deaths	nil
1965	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	0
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	nil
	Maternal deaths	nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1964	2 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	2
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	17.1
	Peri-natal mortality rate	41.7
1965	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate	8.3

Deaths

The chief causes of death were :

	1964	1965
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	2	0
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	14	8
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	0	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	12
Coronary disease, angina	18	13
Hypertension with heart disease	1	2
Other heart disease	7	7
Other circulatory disease	1	7
Pneumonia	2	1
Bronchitis	2	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	2
Congenital malformations	2	0
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	1
Other defined and ill-defined disease	8	8
Motor vehicle accidents	2	1
All other accidents	4	4
Suicide	1	1
	—	—
	82	79
	—	—

Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector

Water Supplies—Mains

During the year the East Devon Water Board laid the 3in. and 4in. P.V.C. main, previously reported, as planned from Devonshire House to Stopgate. Also the mains at Yarcombe were linked by a 300-yard cast iron main with the Wilmington Scheme, and the Yarcombe source was relegated to stand-by.

In addition to this source, there are two other sources at stand-by at Upottery and Weston, Branscombe. It is interesting to note in connection with the latter, that when the pumps at Sidmouth broke down after Christmas and the old Weston source was called upon to supply Branscombe for several days, it had the effect of reviving complaints of the discolouration of the mains water. While there is no concern as to the general quality of the Weston source, these complaints of discolouration after heavy rain seem to justify the retention of this source for emergency use only.

The Board has sampled its mains supply regularly and the results were satisfactory.

Water Supplies—Private

Nineteen bacteriological samples were taken from eleven supplies, and of these nine were reported as satisfactory. Advice was given to improve the unsatisfactory sources and re-sampling continues.

Sewage Disposal

No new consents have been received for the five village schemes which have been prepared and as there is little benefit in preparing any further schemes comprised in this Council's overall programme until at least some of these have been started, I have concentrated on the preparation of other forms of capital works.

During the year, however, a planning consent was given for 130 houses at Sidmouth Junction in addition to an outstanding consent for 30 houses in that village. As the works at Feniton to which all the Sidmouth Junction sewage is pumped is already fully extended, and in view of the establishment of Sidmouth Junction as a Key Settlement, it was decided to enlarge and improve the present works to deal with the anticipated flow together with a reasonable margin for normal expansion. At the same time allowance will be made in the lay-out, etc., for dealing with the ultimate flow, i.e. the flow which can be expected if this Settlement grows to its optimum size. The scheme has been prepared, its estimated cost is about £30,000, and consents are being applied for.

Routine repairs and replacements to equipment at the Council's various pumping stations and sewage works have been carried out and the need for a vacuum tanker in connection with the maintenance of these works seems to be growing.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The normal arrangements for collection and disposal operated smoothly with no major hitches. What complaints there were stemmed mainly from the fact that some occupiers seem unable to understand that a twice-monthly frequency of collection does not mean a fortnightly call. With the exception of a tiny but regrettably highly vocal minority, this twice-monthly frequency seems to satisfy the needs of the vast majority of the rural occupiers, but as from time to time this entails a three-week interval between collections, there has been pressure from Branscombe parish for these three-week intervals to be avoided during the holiday season when the population is at its peak.

It was possible in 1965 to provide one extra collection for the hotels and beach, and it has been agreed to extend these extra collections to three for the whole parish in the holiday season of 1966.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

With the coming into operation of this Act in April, six dealers were registered in the area.

Factories Act, 1961

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Notices
Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 (without power)	10	8	—
Section 7 (with power)	20	9	—
Other Premises (Section 7) including building sites	15	29	—
	—	—	—
	45	46	—
	—	—	—

Section 133 and 134—Outworkers

<i>Nature of work</i>	<i>Number of outworkers August list</i>				
Wearing apparel	2

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Class of premises	No. of premises registered during the year.	Total No. of registered premises at end of year.	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.
Offices	—	3	3
Retail Shops	—	2	2
Wholesale shops, warehouses ...	—	nil	—
Catering establishments open to the public	2	14	10
Fuel storage depots	—	nil	—
	—	—	—
	2	19	15
	—	—	—

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises or workplace :—

Class of workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices	7
Retail shops	6
Wholesale departments, warehouses	0
Catering establishments open to the public	77
Canteens	0
Fuel storage depots	0
	—
Total	90
	—
Total Males	38
	—
Total Females	52
	—

Housing Act, 1957

Detailed inspections were made of five dwellings, and as a result formal proceedings were taken in respect of three of them.

Twenty-nine were repaired following informal action.

Housing

Eighteen dwellings were completed by private developers.

No new houses were completed for the Council, as in view of the present financial climate this Council has resolved not to build any further houses for the time being but to continue with its programme of providing old people's bungalows only. Two of these were completed at Combe Raleigh and a contract for a further four at Wilmington was begun.

Improvement Grants

Discretionary Grants for seven houses, totalling £2,170, were paid, and five were approved.

Standard grants for twenty-two houses, totalling £3,537, were paid, and nineteen were approved.

Rodent Control

Routine inspections were carried out by the part-time rodent operator, and all discovered and reported infestations were dealt with.

Petroleum

One new storage installation for petroleum at Smeatharpe was tested and approved for licensing.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Twenty-four inspections of food premises were carried out and minor contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations were dealt with by informal action.

Large scale improvements to food premises at Gittisham, Talaton, Monkton and Buckerell were approved after discussion, and subsequently supervised.

Twenty-two shops registered for the sale of ice-cream were also checked and approved.

One knackers yard at Payhembury is licensed, and following a report of inadequate staining of dogs meat from there, a visit to explain the relevant Regulations to a new slaughterman was made, and no further trouble has been reported.

During the year the following food was voluntarily surrendered :—

11lb. 5oz. Boneless Cooked Ham — decomposition.
28½lbs. (in tins) Orange Juice — blown.

Swill Boiling

One premises is registered under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, and during the year conditions were found to be below the necessary standard. Notwithstanding repeated warnings and advice, the position did not improve and eventually the licence was withdrawn. Structural improvements were then carried out and the boilers re-sited so that a proper sequence of operation could be followed. The licence was then re-issued and the premises are being checked regularly to ensure compliance.

Fireworks

Four shops were inspected and registered for the storage and sale of explosives.

Nuisances

Forty visits and inspections in connection with sixteen nuisances were made, these nuisances included drains, housing defects, flies, litter, and noise. All were dealt with informally except in two cases at Talaton and Upottery where statutory notices were eventually served.

Caravans and Camping

As well as the Annual Planning Survey of all the sites in the area, detailed inspections of four of the larger sites at Branscombe and one at Southleigh were made in connection with the site licences.

J. D. HOPGOOD,
Public Health Inspector.

OTTERY ST. MARY URBAN DISTRICT

Area	10,008 acres
Population	4,690
Rateable Value	£158,226
Penny Rate produces	£647
General Rate levied	10s.

Deaths

1964	25 males, 41 females	66
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	14.8
	Comparability factor	0.8
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	11.8
1965	32 males, 33 females	65
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	13.9
	Comparability factor	0.66
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	9.2

Live Births

1964	34 males, 37 females	71
	5 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	71
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	15.9
	Comparability factor	1.2
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	19.1
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	7.0
1965	28 males, 35 females	63
	2 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	63
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	13.4
	Comparability factor	1.37
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population... ..	18.4
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births ...	3.2

Still Births

1964	0 still births were registered	0
	Total live and still births	71
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	nil
1965	0 still births were registered	0
	Total live and still births	63
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1964	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	14.1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	15.2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	nil
1965	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	0
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1964	1 death was registered	1
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	14.1
	Maternal deaths	nil
1965	0 deaths were registered	0
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	nil
	Maternal deaths	nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1964	1 death was registered	1
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	14.1
	Peri-natal mortality rate	14.1
1965	0 deaths were registered	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate	nil

Deaths

The chief causes of death were :

	1964	1965
Syphilitic disease	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	0
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	2	0
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	0
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	9
Diabetes	1	0
Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	10
Coronary disease, angina	15	18
Hypertension with heart disease	2	2
Other heart disease	2	2
Other circulatory disease	6	4
Pneumonia	1	2
Bronchitis	3	7
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	0	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	0
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	0
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	3
Motor vehicle accidents	0	1
All other accidents	0	3
Suicide	1	1
	—	—
	66	65
	—	—

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Water Supply

The yield from the Chinway Great Well source has again proved adequate both in quantity and quality during the year, and the East Devon Water Board as the Water Undertaking within the Urban District have maintained an efficient service throughout the District.

Extensions to the main supply services have been carried out as and when necessary to accommodate the comparatively large scale residential development. Co-operation between the East Devon Water Board, Contractors, and the Local Authority, has ensured satisfactory programming, and projects held up or delayed due to the shortage of materials, particularly spun iron main water pipes, have been kept within reasonable bounds—in fact, by and large, no serious restrictions to dwellings in course of erection were experienced.

The two small boreholes serving the Council Housing Estates at Taleford and Alfington continued to maintain a satisfactory supply, minor breakdowns did occur but these interruptions in the supply to the houses was of only short duration and the faults were located and rectified in a matter of hours.

Approximate number of dwellings supplied by mains water—
1510 :

Estimated population — 4058.

Approximate number of dwellings supplied by private wells
or springs — 257 :

Estimated population — 632.

Bacteriological Examination

Due to the more efficient and frequent water sampling carried out by the East Devon Water Board it was felt unnecessary to continue the quarterly sampling of the main water supply.

Two samples of water were taken from the East Devon Water Board supply and one from each Borehole at Gosford and Alfington. Two samples were also taken from a private deep well supply. In all cases the samples were satisfactory.

Sewage Disposal

Owing to the comparatively rapid progress made during the year in private house building, extra maintenance has been

necessary at the Town Sewage Disposal Works. If the present rate of house building is maintained it is estimated that the limit of capacity of these Works will be reached in 1967. It is therefore expedient to consider modification of the Works at an early date.

For a further long term plan it may be possible that overloading of the Town Sewage Disposal Works may be obviated by pumping the predetermined excess flow into the new proposed sewer line situate at Salston, the treatment of the sewage taking place at the new works proposed to be constructed at Fluxton. These Disposal Works will accommodate the West Hill area, Salston, Fluxton, and Wiggaton.

The development of West Hill as a residential area is progressing steadily and the necessity for the provision of main drainage facilities is now obvious. If all the Planning Permissions already granted are taken up, and the present rate of development continues, the new West Hill sewage scheme must be commenced without delay.

The Sewage Disposal Works accommodating the village of Tipton St. John worked satisfactorily during the year. For a short period on one occasion the Works were temporarily out of commission because of the ingress of floodwater from the River Otter.

The village of Alfington is still a source of anxiety. Happily there is no development taking place in the village to aggravate the unsatisfactory conditions owing to the absence of main drainage; one or two dwellings contemplated are situated on sites which can be satisfactorily accommodated by septic tank drainage, and main water supply is available. It is hoped that at an early date the Council will give instructions to the Consulting Engineers for the preparation of a sewerage scheme for Alfington.

Refuse Disposal

The increase in the number of dwellings throughout the Urban District has necessitated a revised refuse collection scheme. The present arrangements allow for a weekly collection in the built-up area of the town and a fortnightly collection in the rural areas.

The disposal of house and trade refuse at the Chinway Refuse Tip by partly controlled tipping continues, and this method of collection and disposal of refuse throughout the Urban District is considered satisfactory.

Factories Act, 1961

Inspection of Factories and Workshops

<i>Premises</i>	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority ...	—	—	—
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	23	82	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority, Building Sites, etc.	30	60	—
	—	—	—
	53	142	—
	—	—	—

Defects found and remedied by informal action :—

Want of cleanliness	—
Inadequate washing facilities	—
Unsuitable and/or defective sanitary conveniences	3
	—
Total	3
	—

Housing

Number of dwellings erected :—

By Local Authority	5
By Devon County Council (Police Houses)	2
By other bodies or persons	65
	—
Total	72
	—

Two old cottages were demolished pending erection on the site of a new dwelling (bungalow).

Standard Grants

Number of dwellings improved	8
Owner/occupier	4
Tenanted	4
Total amount paid in grants—£1,213.	

The Council adhered to their previous decision to refuse to adopt the provision of the Housing Act dealing with Discretionary Grants.

Slum Clearance

It was not considered necessary to take any action in regard to declaring any dwellings within a slum clearance area. A small area, comprising five dwellings, which changed ownership during the year, and on which an undertaking not to re-let had been obtained, was the subject of reconsideration by the Council. It was mutually agreed between the Council and the new owner that the cottages be demolished and the area cleared. Planning permission was eventually granted for the erection of one dwelling on this site.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1964

Inspection of Offices and Shops

Routine inspections of all the premises concerned were made during the year. Three new premises were registered, and the following tables give details as to number of registered premises and visits.

Class of premises	No. of premises registered during the year.	Total No. of registered premises at end of year.	No. of registered premises inspected
Offices	2	16	16
Retail shops	1	29	29
Wholesale shops, warehouses ...	—	3	3
Catering establishments ...	—	7	7
	—	—	—
	3	55	55
	—	—	—

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises — 297.

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises—

Class of workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices	50
Retail Shops	98
Wholesale departments, warehouses	9
Catering establishments open to the public	27
Canteens	—
Fuel storage depots	—
	—
Total	184
	—
Total Males	66
	—
Total Females	118
	—

No notifiable accidents were recorded.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Rodent Control

The usual routine inspections were made of the District, which is divided into twelve areas. Although no particular increase in the rat population was recorded, the number of agricultural premises found to be slightly infested showed a small increase on the previous year. The Workable Area Committee meetings again proved useful.

Slaughterhouses

There was no material change to report on the three private slaughterhouses.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Meat Inspection

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part :—

			Cattle	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Number killed	... ..		564	16	1899	1158
Number inspected	... ..		564	16	1899	1158

All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis—

Whole carcases condemned			—	—	2	—
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Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		75	—	164	51
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Percentage of the number affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis		13.29%	—	8.74%	4.41%
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Tuberculosis only—

Whole carcases condemned		—	—	—	—
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Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned		—	—	—	18
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Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis		—	—	—	1.56%
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Cysticercosis — Nil.

Condemnations—

	lbs. wt.
Beef including offal	770
Mutton and lamb	416
Pork	351
Veal	—
Tinned Meats	14
Miscellaneous (tinned fruit, etc.)	—
	<hr/>
	1,551 lbs.
	<hr/>

Food Preparing Establishments

No notable changes were recorded during the year to any of the food preparing establishments situate within the Urban District. The permanent premises established on the A.30 trunk road at Fenny Bridges, which provide light refreshment facilities and primarily pre-packed meals to holidaymakers travelling to and from the West Country, were considered to be a great improvement on the Mobile Canteens which previously operated on this section of the trunk road during the summer months.

Routine inspections were made to all the food preparing premises concerned, which on the whole were considered satisfactory.

Staff

Mr. J. H. Mercer, Assistant Public Health Inspector, has given valuable assistance during the year. His duties have mainly consisted of inspection under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, meat inspection and routine public health visits, including inspection of drainage to new dwellings. Mr. R. Palfrey replaced Mr. Mervyn Willis as general clerk in October; fortunately the change was effected without any undue delay and Mr. Palfrey soon proved his worth and capabilities, and normal working of the department continued without undue disturbance.

CHAS. WM. GLOVER,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

SEATON URBAN DISTRICT

Area	1,178 acres
Population	3,610
Rateable Value	£199,588
Penny Rate produces	£800
General Rate levied	11s.

Deaths

1964	34 males, 46 females	80
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	22.2
	Comparability factor	0.48
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10.7
1965	39 males, 32 females	71
	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	19.7
	Comparability factor	0.48
	Standardised death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	9.4

Live Births

1964	25 males, 20 females	45
	3 illegitimate births were registered and are included in the above total of	45
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	12.5
	Comparability factor	1.43
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	17.9
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	6.7
1965	18 males, 20 females	38
	1 illegitimate birth was registered and is included in the above total of	38
	Live birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	10.5
	Comparability factor	1.43
	Standardised birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	15.0
	Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	2.6

Still Births

1964	1 still birth was registered	...	...	...	...	1
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	46
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	21.7
1965	0 still births were registered	...	...	...	...	0
	Total live and still births	...	...	...	...	38
	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	...	...	...	nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

1964	1 death was registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	1
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	22.2
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	23.8
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	nil
1965	0 deaths were registered (0 illegitimate)	...	...	...	...	0
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	nil
	Infant mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	nil

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

1964	0 deaths were registered	...	...	...	...	0
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	nil
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	nil
1965	0 deaths were registered	...	...	...	...	0
	Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	nil
	Maternal deaths	...	...	...	...	nil

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

1964	0 deaths were registered	...	...	...	...	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	...	21.7
1965	0 deaths were registered	...	...	...	...	0
	Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	nil
	Peri-natal mortality rate	...	...	...	...	nil

Deaths

The chief causes of death were :

	1964	1965
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	0
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	0	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	10	8
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	0
Diabetes	0	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	23	15
Coronary disease, angina	10	17
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1
Other heart disease	12	8
Other circulatory disease	4	3
Influenza	1	0
Pneumonia	5	3
Bronchitis	1	0
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	0
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	3
Accidents (other than motor vehicle accidents)	2	1
	—	—
	80	71
	—	—

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Routine Inspections

As in former years inspections were made as opportunity occurred concurrent with my duties as Surveyor. Caravan sites, houses, petroleum stations, insanitary premises, food shops and hotels were given particular attention.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1964

It is regretted that through pressure of other work very few inspections were possible. This will be remedied when I cease to be the Surveyor and take up my duties as part-time Public Health Inspector on the 1st September, 1966.

Housing

During the year four two-bedroomed Council flats were finished and also Block C—composed of eight flatlets—at Powell Close. Fifty private houses were completed.

Improvement Grants

Discretionary grant applications were received and approved in respect of two dwellings.

Water Supply

The East Devon Water Board supplies the area and there were no shortages apparent. No samples were taken by the Local Authority.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Discharge of raw sewage from the main part of the town into the sea continued. At the end of the year a local enquiry was fixed for the 20th of January, 1966, and my evidence has accordingly been prepared.

Refuse

As formerly refuse was disposed of at the Sidmouth Council's controlled tip. As the town grows the volume of refuse inevitably increases year by year.

Food Establishments and Cafes

Every endeavour was made as opportunity afforded to see that food hygiene regulations were observed. The standard generally was very good.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Rodent Control

There have been no major infestations, and minor infestations have been effectively dealt with. The half-yearly treatment of rats in sewers continues.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Public Health

There were no complaints to record.

Factories Act, 1961

No action was found necessary.

Caravans and Camping

A count taken in August showed 9 residential caravans, 83 static holiday caravans, 15 tourist caravans, and 3 Dormobiles. Twenty-four organised and 112 casual tents were counted. There were 658 holiday chalets in use on approved sites.

P. R. BRADLEY, A.R.S.H.,

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

